

U.S.S.N. 10/031,766

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WET 0106 PUS

REMARKS

Claims 25, 26 and 28-45 are pending in the above application. All claims stand rejected. In particular, claims 25, 26 and 28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 as being anticipated by JP 5-314824 (JP '824). Claims 29-32 and 34 also stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over JP '824 in view of Hake, U.S. Patent No. 5,861,578. Claim 33 also stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over JP '824 in view of Hols U.S. Patent No. 6,071,551.

By this amendment, Applicants have cancelled claims 36-45 and amended claim 25 to put claims 25, 26 and 28-35 in a condition for allowance. Specifically, all of the remaining claims require at least three multi-layered laminate films which none of the prior art references disclose, teach or suggest. Applicants therefore submit that claims 25, 26 and 28-35 are allowable. A Notice of Allowance is therefore earnestly solicited.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the Applicants' undersigned attorney at (248) 223-9500 if any unresolved matters remain.

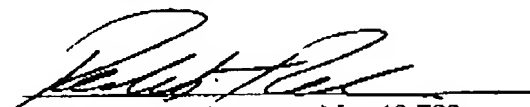
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Respectfully Submitted,

MAR 24 2003

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOWING CHANGES MADE

In The Claims:

Please cancel claims 36-45.

Please amend claim 25 to read as follows:

25. (Twice Amended) A halogen-free composite film comprising at least ~~[two]~~ three to N sealable, multi-layered laminated film~~[(s)]~~, wherein N is an integer from ~~[3]~~ 4 to 10, each multi-layered laminated film comprising a first film, a second film and a laminating adhesive or lacquer between the ~~[first]~~ first and second films, said composite film sealingly engaging one side of a functional element.

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